

News Release For immediate release

Governor announces more ways for Hoosiers to get help

INDIANAPOLIS (June 12, 2008) – Governor Mitch Daniels today announced more ways for Hoosiers affected by severe weather in Indiana since May 30 to receive help.

On Thursday, President George W. Bush approved eight counties – Bartholomew, Hancock, Johnson, Marion, Monroe, Morgan, Vermillion and Vigo – for federal assistance for homeowners, renters and businesses because of severe storms that began on May 30. Residents of these counties may begin applying for FEMA assistance. Here are resources for residents in those counties who have been affected:

- Application for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assistance is done by telephone or online. The application may be found at this link:
 https://www.disasteraid.fema.gov/IAC/
 The telephone number is 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or 1-800-462-7585 (TTY) for the hearing and speech impaired. The toll-free telephone numbers are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (local time) seven days a week.
- Family and Social Services Administration offices and Work One Centers in every approved county have computers available for individuals to use to apply for FEMA assistance. A list of locations for those offices and centers may be found at this link: http://www.in.gov/gov/files/Press/locations.pdf
- Beginning Friday morning at 9 a.m., a toll free resource line will be operational to help direct residents to resources. The number is 1-888-880-3749 and will be available 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- The first three one-stop disaster assistance centers will open Friday morning. Wherever possible, the state is partnering with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the American Red Cross at these centers. The first three centers will be located in Bartholomew, Morgan and Vigo counties. They will be open Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. On Saturday, the centers will begin regular hours of 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. The centers will be open Monday though Saturday. The three locations are:
 - Northside Middle School
 1400 27th Street
 Columbus
 - Poston Road Elementary School
 139 East Poston Road
 Martinsville
 - Booker T. Washington Community Center 1101 S. 13th Street Terre Haute

At the disaster assistance centers, computers and phones will be available for Hoosiers to complete (FEMA) applications. In addition, the Red Cross will be on site to deliver basic necessities for those needing food, water or clothing and other essential items. State agencies, including the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), Indiana State Department of Health, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, Indiana Department of Insurance, Department of Workforce Development and others, will have representatives on site to provide immediate assistance and answer questions for those who have suffered a loss. These state services will be available:

<u>Housing Support</u> – Listing of emergency shelters; listing of temporary housing; rental assistance; apply for Small Business Administration (SBA) home disaster loan

<u>Social Services</u> – Replacement and emergency food stamps; application assistance for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Food Stamps, Medicaid and child care; listing of available child care providers; mental health service referrals; mobile feeding; Red Cross and Salvation Army case work

<u>Unemployment Insurance</u> – Apply for state unemployment benefits or Disaster Unemployment Insurance

<u>Insurance Information</u> – Interpretation of insurance policies by staff of the Indiana Department of Insurance; information on lost or damaged policies; information on obtaining copies of insurance policies; general insurance navigation advice and complaint resolution; car insurance assistance; representatives from private insurers will be on site to answer questions

<u>Public Health Information</u> – Clean up advice and education including mold removal and prevention; vaccination information, including tetanus shots; information regarding free well water testing; access and information to vital records such as birth and death certificates; listing of open medical treatment facilities

<u>Transportation Assistance</u> – Rental car information; vehicle title and registration replacement or apply for a salvage vehicle title via the BMV; car insurance assistance from agents of major private insurance providers; replacement of driver licenses and identification cards.

<u>Business and Financial Services</u> – Application assistance for SBA Disaster Loans from small business counselors from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation; business continuation and planning consulting from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

<u>Agriculture</u> – Representatives from the Department of Agriculture will be available to answer questions.

The latest information from state agencies about coordinated relief and recovery efforts is available here: www.emergency.in.gov.